Vancouver Senate
MINUTES OF 22 JANUARY 2014

Attendance

Present: Prof. S.J. Toope (President and Chair), Dr K. Ross (Secretary), Dr R. Anstee, Dean G. Averill, Dr K. Bainbridge, Mr G. Beales, Dr J. Belanger, Ms E. Biddlecombe, Dean M.A. Bobinski, Dr J. Brander, Dr H. Brock, Dr. P. Burns, Mr C. Chan, Dr G. Chapman, Dr P. Choi, Dean M. Coughtrie, Dr W. Dunford, Mr P. Edgcumbe, Dr D. Farrar (Provost and Vice-President, Academic), Mr D. Fernandez, Rev. Dr C. Godwin, Dr S. Grayston, Mr S. Haffey, Dr W. Hall, Dr P. Harrison, Dean R. Helsley, Dean J. Innes, Ms N. Karimi, Ms A. Kessler, Dr U. Kumar, Ms. E. Kuo, Mr C. Leonoff, Dr P. Leung, Dr P. Loewen, Prof. B. MacDougall, Mr T. MacLachlan, Ms K. Mahal, Dr F. Marra, Ms N. Marshall, Dr P. Marshall, Mr W. McNulty, Ms N. Mohd-Yahya, Dr I. Parent, Dr K. Patterson, Ms M. Patton, Dean S. Peacock, Dr J. Plessis, Dean S. Porter, Mr M. Prescott, Dr A. Riseman, Ms T. Rosseel, Dr L. Rucker, Dean C. Shuler, Ms T. Shum, Dr S. Singh, Dr R. Sparks, Ms S. Sterling, Dr S. Thorne, Mr D. Verma, Dr L. Walker, Dr R. Windsor-Liscombe, Dr D. Witt.

Regrets: Mr T. Ahmed, Dr L. Burr, Mr B. Caracheo, Prof. B. Craig, Dean B. Frank, Prof. B. Goold, Dean M. Isman, Dr I. Ivanov, Ms J. Jagdeo, Dr S. Knight, Dr B.S. Lalli, Mr J. Lee, Ms M. Maleki, Dr W McKee, Ms S. Morgan-Silvester, Principal L. Nasmith, Dr D. O’Donoghue, Dean M. Parlangie, Dr N. Perry, Dr R. Reid, Dr D. Simunic, Dean G. Stuart, Mr M. Thom, Rev. Dr R. Topping, Dr M. Vessey, Dr R. Wilson.

Guests: Ms S. Bigam, Ms V. Bondarenko, Dr A. Kindler, Ms M. Schroeder.

Recording Secretary: Mr C. Eaton.

Call to Order

The President called the fifth meeting of the Vancouver Senate for the 2013/2014 academic year to order.

Senate Membership

The Registrar welcomed Dr Paul Burns back to Senate as a representative of St Marks College, to replace the Rev. Dr Mark Hagemoen.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Richard Anstee  
William McNulty  
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That the Minutes of the Meeting of 18 December 2013 be adopted as presented.  

Approved.

Remarks from the Chair

The President advised that Ms Allison Matacheskie has joined the University as Director of Faculty Relations. Previously she was with the Labour Relations Board.
Professor Toope informed Senate that the Federal Government announced parts of its international education strategy. The Government has “priority markets” identified: Brazil, India, China, India, Vietnam, Mexico, and the Middle East/North Africa/Turkey. Related to this, $13M in funding was confirmed for the UBC-based Mitacs organization, which develops unique research and training programs to provide innovators with scientific and business skills.

Senate was reminded that the search for UBC’s next Chancellor was ongoing, as Ms Sarah Morgan-Silvester’s 2nd term is to end this summer.

Finally, the president noted that the first stage of the sports review results had been announced. Sixteen teams had their varsity status confirmed, and over the next three weeks, the remaining teams will be evaluated on their proposals on how they will achieve the desired markers.

Admissions Committee

The Chair of the Senate Admissions Committee, Dr Robert Sparks, presented.

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION - ADMISSION

Robert Sparks
Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe

That Senate approve changes in admission requirements for applicants to the Bachelor of Education program, effective for entry to the 2014 Winter Session and thereafter.

The Committee Chair advised that this action was proposed to change the length of the degree required for admission to the B.Ed from 4 years to 3 years with two stipulations – the degree must be from a recognized institution, and it must be equivalent to one of our bachelor’s degrees. An example of this would be an undergraduate degree from Australia. The proposed changes affect Elementary, Middle Year, and Secondary options. There are no changes to specific admission requirements for core and upper level courses. Many institutions including those in Canada offer 3-year degrees.

Approved.

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION – CAREER EDUCATION PROGRAM: CHEF EDUCATION SPECIALIZATION

Robert Sparks
Shannon Sterling

That Senate approve changes in admission requirements for applicants to the Bachelor of Education Career Education Program Option in the Chef Education Specialization, for entry to the 2014 Winter Session and thereafter.

Dr Sparks advised that the changes proposed were mainly for clarity and to update information regarding teacher certification.
Admission & Academic Policy Committees

Senator Harrison, Chair of the Academic Policy Committee, presented on behalf of the Committees.

VISITING INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH STUDENT CLASSIFICATION

Paul Harrison
Lance Rucker

That Senate approve the student classification and calendar entry proposed for Visiting International Research Students for inclusion in the 2014/15 version of the Academic Calendar, as set out in the attached proposal.

Dr Harrison advised that this proposal was to address international students who come to campus to do research but not take courses. Currently, we do not know how many there are, how to get them into the country, or how to get them services that they need. This proposal will give these students support and access to limited services. The cost charged has been kept at a minimum.

Senator Dunford asked what would happen for students who wished to stay for less than 1 month.

Dr Harrison advised that very short term visitors would not be under the policy.
Senator Baimbridge asked how we would communicate this with faculty supervisors.

Senator Harrison advised that deans had a responsibility to inform their faculties.

Dr Anstee advised that he was still concerned that students would not follow this policy due to the cost. For some students it was hard to imagine where or why they would pay $500, especially for a shorter term undergraduate.

Dr Harrison advised that compliance with this policy was important for students to have proper legal status in Canada.

Senator Singh asked if the 1 month period had to be consecutive.

Dean Porter replied that yes it did.

Senator Harrison advised that all general policies that apply to “students” would apply.

Senator Kessler asked if there was a comparable program for domestic students.

Senator Harrison advised that there were many agreements between Canadian schools for movement.
Dean Porter replied that international student situations were much more complicated so UBC had focused on providing them with a mechanism specifically.

Senator Hall congratulated the committee for bringing forward this proposal.

Senator Harrison passed his thanks on to Go Global and Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Admissions & Curriculum Committees

Senator Marshall presented on behalf of the Admission & Curriculum Committees

NEW COMBINED DEGREE/DIPLOMA PROGRAM OPTION: MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH/DIPLOMA IN DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

See Appendix A: Master of Public Health/Diploma in Dental Public Health

That Senate approve the New Combined Degree/Diploma Program Option in the Master of Public Health and Diploma in Dental Public Health, and the associated new courses.

Dean Shuler announced that this new program was to allow us to provide a training ground in oral health. There is only one other program in Canada.

Senator Lee asked why persons with DMDs had to write the MCAT.

Dean Shuler replied that this was part of the MPH requirements but we would not require it of dentists.

Nominating Committee

CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

That Senate approve the following revisions to the membership of Committees of Senate effective until 31 August 2014 and thereafter until replaced:

Agenda Committee
Dr Susan Porter to replace Dr Darrin

Approved.
Lehman

Tributes Committee
Dr Michael Coughtrie to replace Dr Darrin Lehman

Report from the Provost

REPORT ON STUDENT EVALUATIONS OF TEACHING

The Provost presented on 2012 Winter Sessions’s student evaluation of teaching results. He noted that the data was largely consistent with the results for previous years. One new aspect of this document is to continue to look at response rates. UBC is convinced that the results are valid; a small study was commission to recommend minimum response rates based on class size: 85% of our data met those recommendations.

A student senator stated that we likely had legal reasons for not releasing individual results, but asked if we could give aggregated departmental results instead of just by faculty.

With permission of Senate, Dr Kindler advised that there were no discussions on this topic when the policy was adopted. At that time, one issue raised was the concern that there were different cultures of assessment across different units.

The Provost advised that such a change would be a matter for Senate.

The student senator requested that this matter be referred to the Committee.

Dr Kindler agreed that the Student Evaluation on Teaching Committee would consider the matter.

ANNUAL REPORT ON EXTERNAL REVIEWS OF ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

Dr Farrar explained that this report was produced in response to reviews generally conducted every 5 years at UBC. Eleven reviews occurred last year:

Faculty of Applied Science
  Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, October 2012
  Department of Civil Engineering, November 2012
  Department of Materials Engineering, January 2013

Faculty of Arts
  Department of Theatre & Film, November 2012
  School of Journalism, January 2013
  Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, February 2013

Approved
Department of French, Hispanic & Italian Studies, March 2013
Museum of Anthropology, April 2013

Faculty of Education
School Psychology PhD Program, September 2012 (Accreditation Review)

Faculty of Medicine
CMMT (Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics), March 2013
ICORD (International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries) Centre, April 2013

Faculty of Science
Zoology Department, November 2012

Senator Hall asked why Experimental Medicine and Statistics were not included in the report.

Senator Peacock advised that the cut-off was August, whereas Statistics was reviewed in September.

Senator Porter advised that Experimental Medicine was not an academic unit, just a graduate program.

A student senator asked why, as a review committee member, she was not advised of the response to a review.

The Provost agreed that this was something that should be followed up with the committee members in the future.

Senator Windsor-Liscombe spoke in favour of review committee members being informed of the actions taken from their reviews.

Senator Baimbridge asked if the review policy prescribed an internal follow-up to reviews, noting that many comments were repeated every 5 years for each department.

The Provost advised that we do follow up with faculties as these come in to the Provost’s office.

Dr Kindler stated that the senate policy set the requirement; the guidelines advised that the review is to consider the previous review and its responses.

Senator Innes informed Senate what his faculty did in response to reviews, and that he shared his faculty responses with review teams.

Senator Loewen stated his appreciation for these reports being brought to Senate.

Senator Singh asked how often each of the faculties were reviewed.
The Provost replied that it is based on the appointment and reappointment processes for deans. A faculty had to be reviewed before a dean could be reappointed. In theory this means it could happen only every 10 years. He noted that external reviews for faculties were published on his website.

Senator Brander asked to what extent do the implicit judgments for what we should be doing come from the reviewers and what comes from what we tell them. Do we tell reviewers what we think these units should be doing or do they tell us?

Dr Farrar replied that we provided a set of standardized data. Imbedded in departmental self-studies are sometimes areas where the department itself has an interest in input. Otherwise, it is up to deans in their instructions to the review team. Reviews will be answering their own questions, the department’s questions, and the dean’s.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.
Appendix A: Master of Public Health/Diploma in Dental Public Health

Faculty of Dentistry

New Courses

DENT 506 (6) - Topics in Dental Public Health I (Critical Literature Review)
DENT 507 (6) - Topics in Dental Public Health II (Critical Literature Review)
DENT 508 (6) - Public Health Rotations I
DENT 509 (6) - Public Health Rotations II